

Hundreds of millions say “Do Not Call”

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by

Bridget Small

Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

In Hollywood, you get glitz and glamour when you make it to the “A” list. Here in Washington, I prefer the peace and quiet I get from being on the national [Do Not Call](#) list. I’m in good company, too. As of October 1, 2015, the Do Not Call list includes [more than 222 million](#) numbers. In the past year, people added almost 5 million new cell and landline numbers, showing they don’t want sales calls from businesses they don’t know. And people on the list speak up if a company doesn’t honor their requests. In the last 12 months, the FTC got more than 3.6 million complaints about companies making [robocalls](#) or calls after they were told to stop.

Unwanted calls can be frustrating, and many of them are illegal. When telemarketers don’t comply with the Do Not Call provisions of the Telemarketing Sales Rule (TSR), the FTC and its law enforcement partners hold them accountable. The FTC has brought [105 enforcement actions](#) against violators. In the past year alone, the FTC and its partners:

- won a court decision against [Dish Network](#) for making tens of millions of calls that violated the law;
- sued a [Florida-based cruise line](#) for illegally selling vacations using political robocalls; and
- filed a complaint against an [outfit that allegedly bombarded](#) older consumers with calls and tricked them into signing up for medical alert systems.

[Sign Up for the Do Not Call Registry](#)

Want fewer sales calls? Simply [register](#) your landline **and** cell phone numbers for free. Most sales calls will stop after your number has been on the registry for 31 days, but you may still get calls from political groups, charities, debt collectors or survey groups. Registrations don’t expire, so once you register a number, it stays on the list until you cancel it or the number is discontinued.